

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A method of notifying a user of a notification event occurring in a small computer device, the small computer device having a memory, the method comprising:

storing at least one profile of notification events in the memory of the small computer device, wherein the notification events are associated with at least one

5 notification type; and

notifying a user of an event according to the stored profile.

2. A method as defined in claim 1 wherein more than one profile is stored in memory and wherein the method further comprises:

associating each profile with a unique notification mode;

receiving a selection signal to select one notification mode;

5 applying the selected notification mode to the small computer device and wherein the device remains in the selected mode until another mode is selected and wherein the user is notified of events according to the selected notification mode.

3. A method as defined in claim 2 wherein the method further comprises:

receiving an indication to select a notification mode;

displaying a notification mode menu; and

wherein the received selection signal relates to a selection from the displayed

5 notification mode menu.

4. A method as defined in claim 2 wherein the computer system further comprises a calendar-type application program storing reminder events and wherein the selection signal is generated by the calendar-type application program.

5. A method as defined in claim 1 wherein the notification type is a vibrating signal, audible signal, visual signal or off.

6. A computer program product readable by a computer and encoding instructions for executing a computer process for notifying a user of notification events, the process comprising:

storing at least one profile of notification events, wherein the notification events

5 are associated with at least one notification type;

associating each profile with a unique notification mode;

receiving a selection signal to select one notification mode;

applying the selected notification mode to the small computer device and wherein

the device remains in the selected mode until another mode is selected and wherein the user is

10 notified of events according to the selected notification mode.

7. A computer program product as defined in claim 6 wherein the process further comprises:

receiving an indication to select a notification mode;

displaying a notification mode menu; and

5 wherein the received selection signal relates to a selection from the displayed notification mode menu.

8. A computer program product as defined in claim 6 wherein the computer further comprises a calendar-type application program storing reminder events and wherein the selection signal is generated by the calendar-type application program.

9. A computer system for notifying a user of notification events, the system comprising:

a memory unit for storing a plurality of profiles, the profile relating notification events with notification types;

5 a first output device for notifying the user of a notification event using a first notification type;

a second output device for notifying the user of the notification event using a second notification type wherein the second notification type is different from the first notification type;

10 a processing unit for automatically determining whether to notify the user using the first notification type or the second notification type.

10. A computer system as defined in claim 9 wherein the notification event is the reception of email over a wireless network.

11. A computer system as defined in claim 9 wherein the notification event is a calendar event stored by a calendar-type application program.

12. A computer system as defined in claim 9 wherein the first notification type is an audible signal and the second notification type is a visual display.

13. A computer system as defined in claim 9 wherein each notification types the first notification type is a vibration signal and the second notification signal is an audible signal.